

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are rejected. Claim 1 is an independent claim. Claims 1 – 17 are pending in the application. Reconsideration of all grounds of rejection in the Office Action based upon the above amendments, and allowance of all of the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Independent claim 1 has been amended and dependent claim 8 has been cancelled as discussed below. Dependent claim 4 has been amended to accurately reflect its dependency on base claim 1.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 10-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang (US Patent No. 6,624,722) in view of Hsueh (US Patent No. 5,763,830) or Caudwell (US Patent No. 3,989,333). Applicant respectfully traverses the above stated rejection.

Claim 1, as amended now, recites a connectors-integrated directional coupler comprising, *inter alia*, a cylindrical housing... an elongated hole extending from the input connector to the output connector for accommodating the main line therein.

In contrast, Wang does not disclose and fails to teach, show or suggest a cylindrical housing or an elongated hole, as specifically recited in amended base claim 1. Moreover, a Wang-type design (rectangular housing and lacking of a notch) is in fact the exact limitations found in the prior art which the present art overcomes. According to the specification, “a discontinuation occurs in the process of transmitting a signal from the circular coaxial input connector to the circular coaxial output connector through the **rectangular housing**, thus

yielding a poor impedance matching and deteriorated directivity (See Page 2, line 20 to Page 3, line 2).

Wang on the other hand discloses a microwave coupler mounted on top of a rectangular housing comprising a elongated hole containing a the main transmission line which result in poor impedance matching and deteriorated directivity as compared to the cylindrical structure comprising an elongated hole disposed on the housing found in the present art. Additionally, the other references Cauldwell and Hsueh fails to teach, show or suggest a cylindrical housing or an elongated notch, as specifically recited in amended base claim 1.

Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these grounds of rejection because Wang in view of Hsueh or Cauldwell do not disclose and fails to teach, show or suggest a cylindrical housing, with an elongated notch, as specifically recited in amended base claim 1

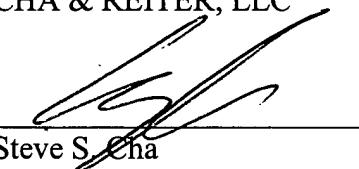
Dependent Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10 -15 are dependent from independent claim 1 discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. In addition, claims 8, 9, 16, 17 which stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang (US Patent No. 6,624,722) in view of Hsueh (US Patent No. 5,763,830) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Toma (US Patent No. 5,607,325) similarly are dependent from independent claim 1. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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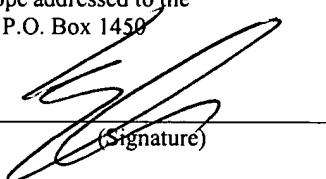
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